News kids can use – to play with

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# Abstract

Young children are an often overlooked group of news consumers, in public debate as well as in academic scholarship. In this chapter I will argue for a broadened concept of news, focusing on the everyday media practices of younger children. The news they are using and consuming may often bear only little resemblance to “real” news, as it is relevant mainly for children’s everyday life, their peer cultures and their play practices. Even young children may feel an urge to keep themselves informed in order to be able to engage themselves in peer and play communities.

# Outcome

[young children..] "are willing to involve themselves if only the subject matter of news, as well as the communities in which news is used, is relevant to them. This should be acknowledged and included in policies regarding media literacy, even for very young children, in order to help children and young people form supportive, democratic and creative communities, including in online settings." (p. 130)